(c) A list of grievances was sent by Parivartan which was redressed in all cases where full in formation was available.

Service Tax on Hire Purchase Finance and Leasing

3899. DR. BIPLAB DAS GUPTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether service tax on hire-purchase finance and leasing has been levied with effect from 1st July, 2001;

(b) whether All India Motor Transport Congress (AIMTC) has urged to review and withdraw the levy because of stiff recession and freights having come down; and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of Government on their demands ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN):

(a) Yes Sir, but with effect from 16th July, 2001.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Government has not found it feasible to accede to the request for withdrawal of service tax.

Sebi Reports on Collection of Funds by Companies

3900. DR.KARAN SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that according to a report by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) of August 2, 2001 or so, directors of some 209 firms have been on the run, after generating hundreds of crores of rupees, leaving subscribers in the lurch;

(b) if so, the number of such companies and their State-wise details; and

(c) the steps taken against such companies to secure the interests of the subscribers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has intimated that as on 30.06.2001,176 companies have been identified as "vanishing companies", i e., those companies which are not

complying with the requirements of listing agreements and/or not available at their registered office addresses after making public issues. State-wise details of these companies are provided in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) Show cause notices were issued to these companies by SEBI 86 companies have been debarred from associating with capital market activities for a period of 5 years. Action is in progress in respect of other 90 companies.

Further, the Dept. of Company Affairs has launched prosecution proceedings against 66 companies; 26 are under liquidation; 02 have been seized by State Governments; action is being taken against another 16 companies and reports are awaited with respect to 04 companies.

Statement

State-wise details of 176 companies which have been identified as ''Vanishing Companies" as on 30.06.2001:

Gujarat	59
Karnataka	08
Orissa	04
Maharashtra	06
West Bengal	17
Tamil Nadu	21
Delhi	17
Andhra Pradesh	20
Uttar Pradesh	08
Punjab	14
Madhya Pradesh	02
TOTAL	176

Advised given by IRDA to LIC/GIC

3901. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the warning issued recently by Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority to LIC, GIC, etc. in connection with UTI;

(b) whether Government have advised for any stern steps to be taken by the financial institutions to safeguard the interests of the general investors; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?